

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 187268
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEA-10 SS-15 SP-02 INR-10
/060 R

DRAFTED BY AF/I-LSHURTLEFF:DFP
APPROVED BY AF/I-WHLEWIS
AF-LWALKER
AF-KBRILL
NEA/AFN-DHESTER
-----050441 251847Z /50
R 251628Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187268

DAKAR FOR MOOSEBELGRADE FOR EAGLEBURGER AND GRAHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MOOSE, RICHARD M.), XA, OAU

SUBJECT:PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF OAU SUMMIT (ADVANCE
COPY OF CFR ITEM)

AF - OAU SUMMIT: PRAGMATISM PREVAILS. (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU)
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS(JULY 7-20) AND SUMMIT (JULY 18-22)
MEETINGS IN KHARTOUM WERE DOMINATED BY OFTEN HEATED DEBATE
ON OUTSIDE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN AFRICA, BUT THE CON-
FEREES -- CLEARLY DOMINATED BY A WELL-ORGANIZED "MODERATE"
MAJORITY -- IN THE MAIN AVOIDED SPECIFIC CONDEMNATION OF
OUTSIDE POWERS IN A SERIES OF RESOLUTIONS CONTAINING TRA-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 187268

DITIONAL OAU COMPROMISE LANGUAGE.

THOUGH THE US AND OUR WESTERN ALLIES SUSTAINED THE NORMAL
RATION OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT HITS, THE SOVIETS AND THE
CUBANS DID NOT ESCAPE UNMARKED. THE AFRICAN CONSENSUS WAS
PROBABLY BEST EXPRESSED BY NIGERIA'S OBASANJO, WHO TOLD THE
ASSEMBLED HEADS OF STATE "THERE ARE THREE PARTIES INVOLVED

IN THE CONTEXT OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA: THE SOVIETS AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, THE WESTERN POWERS, AND WE AFRICANS. TO THE SOVIETS I SHOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT

THEY SHOULD NOT OVERSTAY THEIR WELCOME."

ON THE SPECIFIC ISSUES OF PEACEKEEPING, THE SUMMIT MADE NO FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD MEDIATING DISPUTES BETWEEN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA, CHAD AND LIBYA OR SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA, OR IN FINDING WAYS TO STRENGTHEN OAU PEACEKEEPING MACHINERY BEYOND URGING VARIOUS EXISTING AD HOC GOOD OFFICES COMMISSIONS TO CARRY ON. ON THE WESTERN SAHARA WAR, THE OAU MOVED TO KEEP THE ISSUE OUT OF THE UNITED NATIONS BY CREATING A COMMITTEE LED BY OAU CHAIRMAN NIMEIRI OF SUDAN TO STUDY THE FACTS OF THE QUESTION, INCLUDING THE ISSUE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. WHILE THESE ACTIONS REPRESENT A BALANCED COMPROMISE BETWEEN MOROCCAN AND ALGERIAN NEEDS, OTHER RESOLUTIONS ON THE HORN CLEARLY INDICATED CONTINUED STRONG OAU SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA IN ITS TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH SOMALIA, BUT AVOIDED GRAPPLING WITH THE ERITREAN PROBLEM.

ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, WHERE OAU UNITY IS NEAR TOTAL, THE SUMMIT ADOPTED A STRONGLY WORDED SPECIAL RESOLUTION TRIGGERED BY THE IMPENDING US SENATE VOTE ON THE HELMS RE-

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 187268

SOLUTION WHICH WOULD LIFT US SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA.

THE RECORD 34 HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT IN ATTENDANCE SWIFTLY AGREED TO LABEL SUCH A MOVE AS AN "UNFRIENDLY ACT". OTHER RESOLUTIONS AND DEBATE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA WERE CLEARLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE RECENT LUANDA AGREEMENT ON NAMIBIA AND OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CALL FOR ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THE OAU RESISTED LINKING DIRECTLY ZIONISM AND RACISM AND AT LEAST IMPLICITLY ENDORSED THE SADAT PEACE EFFORT.

IN SUM, THE US HAS EVERY REASON TO BE SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME OF AN AFRICAN SUMMIT MARKED BY FRANK AND OFTEN ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE WHICH SEEMINGLY CLEARED THE

AIR FOR A SERIES OF CAREFULLY WROUGHT COMPROMISE RESOLUTIONS THAT, WHILE SETTLING NONE OF THE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS, AT LEAST KEPT THE WAY OPEN FOR CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE HORN AND ELSEWHERE ON THE CONTINENT. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE187268
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LSHURTLEFF:DFF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780305-0226
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780722/aaaaasqq.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9314e76c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1892850
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF OAU SUMMIT (ADVANCE COPY OF CFR ITEM) AF - OAU SUMMIT: PRAGMATISM PREVAILS.
(CONFIDENTIAL)
TAGS: OVIP, XA, OAU, (MOOSE, RICHARD M)
To: DAKAR
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9314e76c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014